

Roy Foster, AFROAMERICA NETWORK MAN OF YEAR 2009.

War veteran, former homeless, former drug addict, former alcoholic, Roy Foster has seen and experienced a lot of suffering in his life. What is amazing, is that he overcame all that and was able to give back. He even went beyond giving back to become the



inspiration and role model for the entire United States of America. He was born in a remote Georgia 53 years ago, and headed to the US Army after high school. His experience in the Army was not inspirational for Roy Foster. It is when he was serving that he started drinking heavily and experimenting with drugs. By the time he was discharged, in 1980, he was an alcoholic and a drug addict. His life was to take a turn for the worse. He soon found himself a homeless, and spent the next decade in a life of an abandoned dog, sleeping in homeless shelters or the streets; abusing drugs and intoxicated by alcohol.

In 1990, he managed to put his life together, conquered addiction and most importantly, decided to help others, especially vets like him. Along with another veteran, Don Reed, Foster founded the charitable organization Faith*Hope*Love*Charity, which later became Stand Down House.

Since 2000, Foster and Stand Down House with a large help from the US Department of Veterans Administration (VA), have changed the lives of more than 900 veterans. Stand Down House provides male homeless vets with food, shelter and a safe place to recover after arduous duty in the US military, as well as the tools to conquer their personal problems. When vets are discharged, the Veterans Administration refers them to Foster. There, they receive meals, housing, clothing, counseling and transportation to the VA hospital for additional medical and mental health care.



Roy Foster is nominated as CNN Top 10 Heroes for 2009. Despite conquering the odds to become the inspiration, mentor, and role model for the Vets and all the American people, Roy Foster remains humble about his outstanding contribution to human kind.

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